

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN PRIORITY

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TAGS: BEXP, IR

SUBJECT: TRADE CENTER--ASSISTANT SECRETARY DOBBIN OPENING
REMARKS

REF: TEHRAN 7653

I AM VERY PLEASED TO BE HERE THIS EVENING AND TO PARTICIPATE
IN A CEREMONY MARKING WHAT I BELIEVE TO BE AN IMPORTANT
MILESTONE IN IRANIAN-U.S. RELATIONS

A TRADE CENTER SUCH AS THE ONE BEING INAUGURATED HERE THIS
EVENING CAN PLAY MANY USEFUL ROLES. WE WANT THIS TRADE
CENTER TO BE A SHOWCASE IN WHICH THE MOST ATTRACTIVE AND UP--
TO-DATE PRODUCTS OF AMERICAN INDUSTRY CAN BE DEMONSTRATED
TO POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS IN IRAN. WE HOPE ALSO THAT OPERATION
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OF THE CENTER OVER THE YEARS WILL ENCOURAGE MANY ADDITIONAL

AMERICAN COMPANIES TO BECOME ACTIVE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS DYNAMIC MARKET. BUT, MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, WE HOPE THAT THE U.S. TRADE CENTER IN TEHRAN WILL QUICKLY BECOME A MEETING PLACE FOR IRANIAN AND AMERICAN DECISION MAKERS FROM BOTH THE PUBLIC AND THE PRIVATE SECTORS, AND THEREBY CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO CLOSER ECONOMIC COLLABORATION BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

IN THIS SENSE, I BELIEVE WE ARE HERE THIS EVENING FOR MORE THAN JUST A RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY. I PREFER TO THINK OF IT IN MUCH BROADER TERMS AS A REDEDICATION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF FRIENDSHIP AND EXCHANGE OF IDEAS BETWEEN IRAN AND THE UNITED STATES.

IRAN, UNDER THE DYNAMIC AND ENLIGHTENED LEADERSHIP OF THE SHAHANSHAH, HAS MADE DRAMATIC PROGRESS OVER THE LAST DECADE TOWARD ITS AMBITIOUS GOALS IN THE AREAS OF SOCIAL WELFARE, ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, JUSTICE AND INTERNATIONAL PEACE. THE UNITED STATES IS PROUD OF ITS ASSOCIATION WITH IRAN IN REACHING FOR THESE GOALS. IRAN HAS TRULY BECOME A PLACE OF STABILITY AND HOPE IN A TROUBLED WORLD, AND AMERICAN BUSINESS HAS RESPONDED WITH AN UNPRECEDENTED INTEREST IN IRAN AS A GOOD PLACE FOR DOING BUSINESS

A GROWING NUMBER OF AMERICAN FIRMS HAVE COMMITTED THEMSELVES THROUGH DIRECT INVESTMENT TO THE TASK OF WORKING TOGETHER WITH THEIR IRANIAN PARTNERS TO HELP IRAN CARRY OUT ITS AMBITIOUS AND YET REALISTIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS. I AM PLEASED TO NOTE THAT THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE IRANIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY HAVE ALWAYS GIVEN AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN A WARM AND GENEROUS WELCOME IN THIS COUNTRY, AND THE FAVORABLE INVESTMENT CLIMATE WHICH EXISTS HERE IS BECOMING MORE WIDELY APPRECIATED IN MY COUNTRY EVERY YEAR.

THROUGH TRADE LINKS ALREADY FORGED, OUR TWO COUNTRIES HAVE BECOME MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO CONTINUED STEADY GROWTH IN THE VOLUME AND DIVERSITY OF OUR TRADE, WITH FULL APPRECIATION FOR THE FACT THAT TRADE BETWEEN NATIONS IS A TWO-WAY STREET. THE U.S. TRADE CENTER IN TEHRAN, AND THE EQUIPMENT ON DISPLAY AT MEDEX '73, DEMONSTRATE THE CONFIDENCE OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AND AMERICAN BUSINESS IN IRAN AND IN THE CONTINUED STRENGTHENING OF IRANIAN-U.S. BUSINESS RELATIONS
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OUR EXHIBITORS ARE PLEASED TO BRING THEIR EQUIPMENT HERE FOR YOUR INSPECTION. I THANK THEM FOR JOINING IN MEDEX '73, AND I EXTEND MY GOVERNMENT'S CORDIAL INVITATION TO BUSINESSMEN AS WELL AS DOCTORS, HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATORS AND PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICIALS TO VISIT THE U.S. TRADE CENTER AND TO ATTEND ONE OR MORE OF THE TECHNICAL SEMINARS BEING HELD HERE THIS WEEK. SOME OF THE EQUIPMENT IN THIS EXHIBITION IS BEING SHOWN FOR

THE FIRST TIME OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES.

IN THE MONTHS AND YEARS AHEAD THIS TRADE CENTER WILL HOST MANY
TRADE SHOWS, TRADE MISSIONS, CATALOGUE SHOWS, TECHNICAL
WORKSHOPS AND SYMPOSIA. EACH ONE WILL BE GEARED TO IRAN'S
INTEREST AND NEEDS. WE INTEND, AS IN THE CASE OF THE PRESENT
EXHIBITION, TO BRING TO THIS COUNTRY THE VERY LATEST IN THE
WAY OF TECHNOLOGY AND TECHNIQUES. AS WE PROCEED IN THIS JOINT
ENDEAVOR, I AM CONFIDENT THAT OUR COMMON INTEREST WILL BE EVEN
MORE FIRMLY AND MORE PROFITABLY JOINED. KISSINGER

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